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FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN HAITI

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission in Haiti (UNMIH) (A/49/318/Add.2 and Corr.1), submitted to it in the form of an advance draft. During its consideration of the report the Advisory Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General who provided additional, up-to-date information.

2. In this connection, the Committee points out once again that it has increasingly been called upon to consider reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of peace-keeping operations on the basis of advance drafts in English without the benefit of the language versions. Furthermore, the reports frequently contain insufficient or inaccurate information and the Committee's ability to discharge its responsibilities is further hampered by the fact that its requests for adequate supporting information or clarification are not always met in a timely fashion. The Advisory Committee trusts that with the establishment of regular budget cycles relating to the financing of peace-keeping operations as authorized by the General Assembly in its resolution 49/233 of 23 December 1994, the Secretary-General will ensure timely submission to the Committee of comprehensive final documentation, in all the official languages.

3. As indicated in the summary of the report of the Secretary-General under consideration, the document contains the revised budget of the advance team of up to 500 personnel for UNMIH for the period from 1 August 1994 to 31 January 1995 and the main force of 6,000 for the period from 1 February to 31 December 1995. In this connection, the Advisory Committee recalls that the Security Council, by its resolution 867 (1993) of 23 September 1993, established UNMIH for an initial period of six months and expanded the mandate in its subsequent resolutions 940 (1994) and 964 (1994); in its resolution 975 (1995)

of 30 January 1995, the Security Council extended the mandate for a period of six months until 31 July 1995 and authorized the full deployment of UNMIH by 31 March 1995, including the deployment of up to 6,000 troops and 900 civilian police officers.

4. As indicated in the report of the Secretary-General, the revised budget for the advance team amounts to $5,902,500 gross ($5,707,100 net) and provides for a strength of up to 24 military observers, 19 contingent personnel, 40 civilian police and 84 civilian staff for the period from 1 August 1994 to 31 January 1995.

5. The budget for the period from 1 February to 31 December 1995 is estimated at $272,966,400 gross ($268,301,000 net) and provides for a strength of up to 6,000 troops, 900 civilian police and 489 civilian staff, consisting of 220 international and 240 local staff and 29 United Nations Volunteers.

6. As indicated in paragraphs 17 to 19 of the report, three specific trust funds have been established for Haiti (a) to finance the cost of construction materials and other expenditures not normally financed from assessed contributions, for which no pledges have been received to date; (b) for electoral assistance to Haiti, for which pledges to date total $2,700,000; and (c) to provide goods and services to the international police monitoring programme and other specifically designated purposes in Haiti, for which no pledges have been received to date.

7. The Advisory Committee notes that, as reported in the eleventh report of the Multinational Force in Haiti, 1/ the Paris donor's conference approved significant aid packages for Haiti: a $600 million reconstruction programme was approved, as was an additional $240 million in assistance funds. The total aid package of $900 million will be provided over a period of 12 to 18 months. Civic action projects in the package include road repair, repairs of the Interim Public Security Force headquarters, prison repairs, water, sewage and electricity systems repair, and distribution of school supplies and food. The Advisory Committee recommends that close coordination be established with UNMIH to ensure that optimum use of resources is assured.

8. In paragraph 34 of his report, the Secretary-General indicates the actions to be taken by the General Assembly. The following table, provided by the Secretariat, gives details of action taken by the Security Council, as well as the General Assembly, during the periods between 23 September 1993 and 28 February 1995.

	23 September 1993 to 22 March 1994	23 March to 30 June 1994	1 to 31 July 1994	1 August 1994 to 31 January 1995	1 December 1994 to 31 January 1995	1 to 28 February 1995	Total
1. Security Council resolutions							
Number	867 (1993)	905 (1994)	933 (1994)	940 (1994)	964 (1994)	975 (1995)	
Date	23 September 1993	23 March 1994	30 June 1994	31 July 1994	29 November 1994	30 January 1995	
2. Strength							
Observers	1	1	1	16	24	24	
Contingents	-	-	-	11	43	250	
Civilian police	1	-	-	13	40	59	
International staff	1	1	1	20	25	167	
Local staff	2	2	2	-	51	157	
United Nations Volunteers	-	-	-	-	-	-	
3 Resources							
ACABQ authorization	-	-	-	1 347 000	5 788 600	3 720 700	10 856 300
Letter	-	-	-	AC/1228	AC/1241	AC/1241	
Date	-	-	-	18 October 1994	16 December 1994	16 December 1994	
General Assembly authorization	1 383 000 a/	-	44 200	221 000	-	-	265 200
Decision number	48/477	-	-	-	-	-	
Resolution number	-	-	48/246	48/246	-	-	
Date	23 December 1993	-	5 April 1994	5 April 1994	-	-	
General Assembly appropriation	1 383 000	143 700	-	-	-	-	1 526 700
Resolution number	48/246	48/246	-	-	-	-	
Date	5 April 1994	5 April 1994	-	-	-	-	
Total, line 3	1 383 000	143 700	44 200	1 568 000	5 788 600	3 720 700	12 648 200
4. Expenditure	1 346 000	143 700	44 200	1 568 000	4 334 500	3 720 700	11 157 100
5 Balance (3-4)	37 000	-	-	-	1 454 100	-	1 491 100

	23 September 1993 to 22 March 1994	23 March to 30 June 1994	1 to 31 July 1994	1 August 1994 to 31 January 1995	1 December 1994 to 31 January 1995	1 to 28 February 1995	Total
6. Assessment							
Amount	1 383 000	-	-	2 036 700	-	-	
General Assembly decision	48/477	-	-	49/468	-	-	
Date	23 December 1993	-	-	23 December 1994	-	-	
Amount	-	143 700	44 200	221 000	-	-	
General Assembly resolution	-	48/246	48/246	48/246	-	-	
Date	-	5 April 1994	5 April 1994	5 April 1994	-	-	
Total, line 6	1 383 000	143 700	44 200	2 257 700	-	-	3 828 600

a/ Not included in the totals since the amount was subsequently appropriated by the General Assembly.

9. During its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General, the Advisory Committee also received a request from the Controller seeking the Committee's concurrence to enter into commitments for the start-up requirements as well as the recurrent costs of UNMIH for the month of March 1995 in the amount of $50 million gross ($49,595,300 net) in accordance with section IV of General Assembly resolution 49/233. On inquiry the Advisory Committee was informed that, of that total, an amount of nearly $5 million had already been committed and requisitions for a further $34 million had been made against an amount of $49,846,000 authorized by the Controller for December 1994 onwards.

10. In this connection, the Advisory Committee points out that contracts and letters of assist can only be signed after approval has been obtained from the Headquarters Committee on Contracts; no submission can be made to the Committee on Contracts without certification that resources have been made available. Certified requisitions must therefore be considered as commitments for goods and services for which obligations will be raised.

11. The Advisory Committee points out that, under the terms of section IV, paragraph 3, of General Assembly resolution 49/233, the Secretary-General is authorized to enter into commitments not to exceed $50 million with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee. However, in this case, the Advisory Committee's concurrence is being sought ex post facto. The Committee has cautioned against this on several occasions in the past and reiterates its insistence that decisions of the General Assembly in this procedure be adhered to without exception and that there be strict adherence to the financial regulations and rules of the United Nations.

Cost estimates for the period from 1 August 1994 to 31 January 1995

12. The Advisory Committee believes that, at the present stage, the cost estimates for the period from 1 August 1994 to 31 January 1995 do not serve a useful purpose except for comparison with estimates for the following financial period. In this connection, the Advisory Committee recalls that it had concurred in the Secretary-General's entering into commitments in the amounts of $1,347,000 and $5,788,600 for the period from 1 August 1994 to 31 January 1995, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 48/229 of 23 December 1993 on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses. The Committee intends to review the actual expenditures in the context of its examination of the performance report.

Cost estimates for the period from 1 February to 31 December 1995

13. It is not clear from the report of the Secretary-General how the mandate for UNMIH as established by the Security Council in its resolution 867 (1993) and as revised and extended by it in paragraphs 9 and 10 of resolution 940 (1994) has been translated into an operational plan on which these estimates are based. Furthermore, the correlation between activities outlined in the report of the Secretary-General to the Security Council of 17 January 1995 2/ and the resource requirements listed in the report under consideration should have been clearly spelt out.

14. In the absence of any clear linkage between the mandate and the resource requirements listed in the document, the Advisory Committee faced considerable

difficulty in assessing the Secretary-General's proposals for UNMIH. The Committee nevertheless believes that for a number of items the resources being requested are rather excessive and that the amounts indicated are not based on any acquired experience but, as confirmed to the Committee, were mere projections rather than firm estimates.

Military personnel costs

15. The cost estimates for contingent personnel are, as per standard practice, based on the phasing-in of contingents. As indicated in annex V.B of the report of the Secretary-General, the deployment plan for military contingents in the mission area calls for a total of 6,000 personnel; of this total, 2,221 are identified as logistics support personnel and 3,779 as infantry personnel.

16. As indicated in annex III of the report, an amount of $60,200 has been budgeted for mission subsistence allowance and other costs for military observers; however those costs relate solely to the month of February 1995. The Advisory Committee points out that an amount of $187,500 for mission subsistence allowance for 100 military planners and support personnel for the period from 1 November 1994 to 28 February 1995 at a rate of $124 per day has also been included in the cost estimates for the entire period from 1 February to 31 December 1995 (annex IV, para. 9).

17. Other costs relating to military contingents for the 11-month period include provision for 6,000 troops for such items as standard troop cost reimbursement ($61,339,000), welfare ($964,700) and daily allowance ($2,277,500).

18. An amount of $16,763,400 has been included for rations at a rate of $8.50 per person per day (for 1,779,315 person/days ($15,124,200), bottled water estimated at $0.75 per gallon at a rate of 1.20 gallons per person per day ($1,601,400) and an emergency stock of bottled water for seven days for 6,000 personnel ($37,800) (annex IV, para. 7).

19. In this connection, the Advisory Committee recalls that in annex IV of the report of the Secretary-General cost estimates for the period from 19 September 1994 to 31 January 1995 indicate the daily cost of rations and drinking-water at $7.00 and $1.36 respectively per person. The Committee questioned that difference and was informed that the $7.00 covered field combat ration packs, while the estimate of $8.50 provided for delivery to the unit level of fresh, frozen, chilled and dry ration commodities. The Committee was also informed that the figure of $8.50 was a budgeting figure and was not based on any experience in Haiti, and that at the time of awarding the catering contract, the amount could be adjusted. The Committee was informed that, as at the time of its consideration of the report, no catering contract had been entered into for providing meals for the troops; it was anticipated that, at least for the first half of March 1995, the troops would be paid a mission subsistence allowance. The Committee was also informed that, as per standard practice, rations were sometimes provided from the contingents' own stocks for a period of 60 days if the Mission was not ready to provide them during that period and that such costs were reimbursed as consumables to troop-contributing countries.

20. With regard to the requirements for water, the Advisory Committee notes from paragraph 7 of annex IV of the report that the consumption requirements are 1.2 gallons of drinking-water per person per day. The Committee trusts that with the installation of equipment for water production, purification and storage as described in the paragraphs below, the requirements for bottled water would be reduced considerably.

21. The Advisory Committee notes from paragraph 45 of annex IV that sources of fresh, untreated water had been found to be readily available and that drilling of bore holes by contractual arrangements might be a cost-effective and viable option for supply of water in bulk. While specific costs for this activity have not be identified, an overall figure of $2 million has been estimated under the general heading "Infrastructure repairs", a service that, in the opinion of the Advisory Committee, can also be provided through contractual arrangements (see paras. 39 and 54 below).

22. In addition, an amount of $500,000, as indicated in paragraph 97 of annex IV, has been estimated for supply and installation of water-purification equipment. This would provide for 80 litres of chlorinated water per person per day (5 litres designated as bottled drinking-water) with a storage capacity of 120 litres per person per day for the camps and 30 litres of treated water per person per day with a storage provision of 50 litres per person per day for the working environment. In the opinion of the Advisory Committee this estimate for water consumption appears excessive; the Committee requests that information on water consumption be included in the next budget estimates for UNMIH.

23. Apart from the estimates given for the drilling of boreholes and for water-purification equipment, in the table in paragraph 102 of annex IV a monthly cost of $75,000 has been indicated for water production, storage and distribution within the total budget estimate for contractual services.

24. Of the activities to be undertaken for the production, purification and storage of water, it is not clear from the report which of these activities will be carried out by the contingents and which ones through contractual services. The question was also raised with representatives of the Secretary-General; however, it remains to be clarified. This situation leads one to conclude that there might be a possibility for double budgeting for the same service. Although not recommending a reduction at the present stage, the Advisory Committee requests clarification in the performance report.

25. As indicated in paragraph 12 of annex IV, an amount of $19,792,000 has been estimated for payment to troop-contributing Governments for the use of contingent-owned equipment. The estimates are based on an average reimbursement rate of 10 per cent per annum of an estimated value of equipment per battalion of $50 million. In this connection, the Advisory Committee was informed that the rate of 10 per cent had been used purely for budgeting purposes and that once the standardization plan for reimbursement was in effect as envisaged by the General Assembly in its resolution 49/233, the applicable rates for each category of equipment would be used to effect payment. The Advisory Committee also inquired and obtained confirmation that only equipment, excluding personal clothing, gear and weapons and ammunition but including medical supplies and rations as mentioned in paragraph 18 above, would be reimbursed to Member States

against this budget item; services would not be reimbursable as "contingent-owned equipment".

26. The Advisory Committee is of the opinion that there is a need to clarify the elements used in the calculation of reimbursement for contingent-owned equipment. The Committee was informed in the context of its examination of these estimates, as well as the estimates for the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR) (A/49/375/Add.2) and its examination of the report of the Secretary-General (A/49/714 and Add.1 and Corr.1) on disposition of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) assets, that reimbursement included consumables (such as water, food, and medical supplies), and purchase and lease of equipment. The Committee trusts that the exercise carried out pursuant to section II of General Assembly resolution 49/233 will establish criteria for defining the elements to be reimbursed under contingent-owned equipment.

27. On inquiry, the Committee was informed that an amount of $1,100,000 for site preparation indicated in the budget document under "Construction/prefabricated buildings" (annex IV, para. 39) would be reimbursed to two Governments whose troops had undertaken the task of site preparation. Payment would be made against reimbursement for troop costs and transportation of contingent-owned equipment. As indicated to the Committee, the services performed in that connection consisted of site and field defence preparation, installation of perimeter lighting, construction of recreation facilities and infrastructure repairs. The Committee believes that such tasks as indicated in the report could be performed by the engineering troops themselves in the normal course of carrying out their assignment to the Mission. Furthermore, those services could also be provided by the contractor.

28. The Advisory Committee was also informed that the United Nations is in the process of negotiating the provision of a medical services utility field hospital with a Member State and that the costs will be reimbursed under the rules pertaining to contingent-owned equipment; the medical supplies used by the field hospital will be reimbursed as consumables under contingent-owned equipment arrangements while the medical services provided by hospital personnel would be funded under troop cost reimbursement at the standard rate. The Committee notes that these costs have not been clearly identified in the report nor has any information been provided for the Committee to be able to assess whether those supplies and services could have been provided in a more cost-efficient manner.

29. The Committee notes from paragraph 105 of annex IV that an amount of $81,400 has been estimated for medical treatment and services and $841,000 for medical supplies (para. 110). The Committee was informed that those estimates covered reimbursement for the vaccination of contingent personnel and routine medical services rendered to civilian staff not covered by the field hospital.

Civilian personnel costs

30. The Advisory Committee believes that the levels and numbers of international civilian personnel as indicated in paragraph 17 of annex IV of the report are high; the Committee strongly recommends that the Secretary-General

review the request. Given the absence of justification of the functions to be performed and the quantification of the workload, there appears to be widespread overlapping of tasks between military, civilian and contractual staff. In view of the presence of military battalions in the mission area performing services in engineering, logistics, communications, transport and movement control, there appears to be no justification for civilian staff in such large numbers in those same areas. Similarly, potential for overlapping exists in the area of security. The Advisory Committee was informed that civilian security personnel would assist in providing security for military installations. The Committee requests that the need for such a large number of United Nations security officers (see annex VI), as well as the need for provision of an amount of $150,000 for additional local security services (annex IV, para. 104), be reviewed in the light of the actual situation and experience.

31. The Advisory Committee questions the number of economic/humanitarian advisers; the Committee requests that in his next report on UNMIH the Secretary-General provide clear information on the relationship between this Mission and humanitarian and human rights activities including the International Civilian Mission in Haiti (MICIVIH). Furthermore, such information should indicate the extent to which UNMIH provides financial, administrative and logistic support to those entities.

32. With regard to the mission subsistence allowance rate as reflected in the cost parameters in annex IV, the Advisory Committee notes that the rate of $124 for the first 30 days and $84 thereafter denotes a change from the rates shown for the previous financial period. Upon inquiry, the Committee was informed that the same rate of mission subsistence allowance had been used throughout the country since it was believed that this would ultimately be more cost-effective given deployment and redeployment of staff to the various sites during the Mission's existence and the administrative work involved in keeping track of those deployments. The Advisory Committee questions the procedure whereby the same rate has been applied for the whole country; it recalls that, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 49/233, the Secretary-General will be reviewing the entitlements of staff assigned to field missions, including the purpose of and basis for the establishment of mission subsistence allowance, and reporting to the Assembly at its fiftieth session.

33. The Advisory Committee believes that the estimate for common staff costs ($6,237,300) as mentioned in the report (annex IV, para. 23) contains elements of expenditure that will not be applicable to Haiti. The Committee recalls that common staff costs include estimates for such items as pension contribution, education grant and so on. Consequently, it does not believe that all these expenditures will arise, nor will the entire amount of $202,800 (para. 25) be required for emplacement travel.

34. The Advisory Committee notes that provision of $1,133,300 is made for 29 United Nations Volunteers (para. 28); the Committee was informed that 14 additional Volunteers were being financed from the Trust Fund for Electoral Assistance to Haiti. The Committee questioned the need for a unit simply to provide administrative backstopping for such a small number of Volunteers and recommends that it not be established. In a related matter, the Committee believes that more efforts should be made to hire mission appointees, a practice

that would prove more cost-effective than assignment of staff from other duty stations.

35. In view of its comments and observations in the paragraphs above with regard to civilian personnel costs, the Advisory Committee recommends that the General Assembly approve an overall amount of $19 million for provision of these services. This involves a reduction of $6,073,000 from the Secretary-General's request of $25,073,000. The Committee requests that the number, level and functions of civilian staff be reviewed by the Secretary-General, taking into account the services that are available through contractual arrangements and through the use of the military logistics unit, and report the results in his next report on UNMIH.

Premises: rental, construction, alteration

36. A total of $15,107,600 has been estimated for premises/accommodation, of which $9,096,200 relates to construction of prefabricated buildings, $3,332,000 relates to rental, $594,600 to alterations and renovation of premises, $150,400 to maintenance supplies and services, and $1,934,400 to utilities (annex IV, paras. 31-39).

37. In the opinion of the Advisory Committee, the cost of rental as indicated in paragraph 31 (a) to (c) seems rather excessive. From the additional information provided to it, the Committee notes that in the Port-au-Prince and Cap Haïtien area all the sites utilized by the Multinational Force will be taken over by UNMIH, including warehouse sites and a site that, the Committee was informed, was waterlogged and thus of little use or value. The Committee was not provided with the terms of the arrangements for assuming the lease(s). It believes that since the size and mandates of the Multinational Force and UNMIH are dissimilar, it should not be necessary for UNMIH to take over all of the Multinational Force facilities. In the opinion of the Advisory Committee, it is essential that a careful analysis be undertaken with a view to determining the most cost-effective method of acquiring goods and services that are appropriate for the size and mandate of the Mission beyond 31 March 1995. The Committee recommends that maximum efforts be made to obtain premises from the host country and to ensure that the United Nations is not charged rent in excess of the prevailing rates. In this connection, the Advisory Committee was informed that the Status-of-Forces Agreement was signed between the Government of Haiti and UNMIH on 15 March 1995.

38. The Advisory Committee notes the requirements for office space and dormitory modules, as indicated in paragraphs 37 and 38 of annex IV. As indicated in the table in paragraph 39, the cost per module has been estimated at $6,200, as compared with $4,500 per module used, for example, in the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR). On inquiry, the Committee was informed that the cost per module was not based on any bid but was only an estimate and that the price increase was projected as the result of changes to the standard specifications. The Advisory Committee believes that standard specifications should be developed for the various climate conditions in which the United Nations is likely to operate with a view to eliminating additional costs due to "customizing".

Infrastructure repairs

39. A description of the existing infrastructure and the required repairs to be undertaken through contractual arrangements has been given in paragraphs 40 to 46 of annex IV; an amount of $2 million has been estimated for this purpose, although, as stated in paragraph 46, "precise requirements for the installation, repair, maintenance and upkeep of the infrastructure described above will be defined by the staff of engineering services". The Advisory Committee requested but did not receive further details as to the findings and recommendations of the engineering services. Furthermore, the Committee believes that the services outlined in paragraphs 40 to 46 could also be performed by the logistics support service contractor (see annex IV, paras. 101 and 102) and if this is the case there may be an element of double budgeting in a separate estimate of $2 million, particularly for administrative overheads and labour (expatriate and local). The Advisory Committee requests information on this in the next report on UNMIH. In the meantime, the Committee recommends a reduction of $1 million.

Transport operations

40. Estimates for land, air and sea operations are given as $13,888,000, $19,235,300 and $3,772,800 respectively.

41. With regard to the purchase of vehicles, the Advisory Committee notes that the estimate of $5,745,100 provides for 157 vehicles based on the requirements of a total of 532 United Nations-owned vehicles and 1,400 contingent-owned vehicles. Of the total of 532 vehicles, the Committee notes from paragraph 48 of annex IV that 167 have already been purchased for the advance party, while 208 will be provided from other missions in liquidation; for these only provision for freight ($661,500) will be necessary, leaving a net total of 157 to be purchased. Nevertheless, for an area of operation as small as Haiti, the Advisory Committee does not believe that a total as large as 532 United Nations-owned vehicles and 1,400 contingent-owned vehicles is justified. The Committee was informed that no vehicles of the Armed Forces of Haiti (FADH) had been left behind. However, in view of the situation, the Committee believes that every effort should be made to trace the vehicles in order to supplement or reduce the vehicle establishment of UNMIH.

42. The Advisory Committee notes from annex IX that a total of 429 4x4 jeeps are being requested for the Mission. In this connection, since 120 of these vehicles have already been made available for the advance party (annex II, para. 36) and 200 are to be transferred from other missions (see the table in annex IV, para. 48) for a total of 320, the Advisory Committee recommends against the purchase of additional jeeps; the budget estimates should accordingly be reduced by $2,234,500, with a further reduction of $383,600 in respect of the related requirements for spare parts, petrol, oil and lubricants, and insurance.

43. The estimate of $19,235,300 provides for hire/charter costs from Governments for (a) eight Huey (UH 1N) and four Chinook (CH-47) helicopters ($16,465,400) and related fuel and lubricants costs ($1,670,100), and (b) for hire/charter costs for one fixed-wing Fokker-27 aircraft ($819,400) and related fuel and lubricants ($280,400).

44. Utilization of the helicopters and aircraft is described in paragraphs 54 and 63, respectively. The Advisory Committee was informed that one contingent might have an additional eight Chinook helicopters for its own deployment. As indicated in paragraph 54 and confirmed by the representatives of the Secretary-General, the Chinook helicopters are required for transportation of heavy equipment as well as for rapid deployment of the force in the event of an outbreak of violence or disturbances, particularly in the first two months after the transition from the Multinational Force to UNMIH. The Advisory Committee trusts that the requirements for helicopters will be reviewed once the transitional period is over.

45. The Advisory Committee notes that it is estimated that each of the eight Huey helicopters will fly 60 hours per month at a monthly rental cost of $112,500 per helicopter, as compared to the norm of 75 hours in other missions, while each of the four Chinook helicopters are estimated to fly 40 hours per month at a monthly rental cost of $208,300 per helicopter. The Advisory Committee was informed that the aircraft charges are charged per flight/hour flown.

46. An estimate of $1,699,200 has been included for the rental of landing craft units, as indicated in paragraph 71, at a rate of $70,800 per unit; three units are proposed to be rented for the first two months ($424,800) and two for the remaining nine months ($1,274,400). As indicated in paragraph 72, an estimate of $60,000 has been included for the purchase of four additional light water-craft boats at a cost of $15,000 each; two of these boats have already been purchased during the period from 1 August 1994 to 31 January 1995. In this connection, the Advisory Committee notes the comments in paragraphs 71 and 72 of annex IV that the roads in the country are in extremely poor condition; the Committee trusts that with the substantial investment in infrastructure repairs as indicated in the budget document as well as donor assistance for that purpose, the need for landing craft units will be reviewed, in addition to the review that should be made at the end of the first rental period of two months.

Communications

47. The total estimate for communications has been indicated as $9,301,400, with estimates for individual components broken down as follows: communications equipment $5,941,500; spare parts and supplies $1,075,600; workshop and test equipment $315,000; and commercial communications $1,969,300, of which $1,575,000 covers user charges for 16 INMARSATs for four months. The Committee was provided with extensive additional information in this connection; it notes that an attempt has been made to provide a system that will meet every eventuality.

48. The static satellite communications equipment, as indicated in paragraph 77, will be the backbone of the network, providing nationwide coverage as well as communications between UNMIH headquarters in Haiti and New York; it will provide telephone, facsimile and data communications facilities. The network comprises four 3.7-metre earth stations for internal communications and one 4.6-metre hub station for external linkage as well. The Advisory Committee was informed that the system was already in operation and that it also served MICIVIH.

49. As indicated in paragraph 82 of annex IV, INMARSAT "M" terminals would be required until the static satellite communications equipment was installed, after which the terminals would be used as emergency back-up. Given that the estimate also provides for a mobile two-way radio back-up communications system, in addition to a cellular telephone system, and since the static system has already been installed, the Advisory Committee recommends against the acquisition of the 16 INMARSAT terminals ($288,000) and incurring of initial user charges for four months ($1,575,000).

50. The Advisory Committee notes from the table in paragraph 80 that there is also considerable contingent-owned communications equipment in situ. In view of that, the Committee questions the need for all the 576 mobile two-way radio units and 972 portable units, in addition to 20 portable cellular telephones. The Advisory Committee recommends a reduction of 50 per cent in the estimates of $420,000 for the cellular telephone system and $1,152,400 for the conventional two-way radio system.

Office furniture and equipment, including electronic data processing

51. Estimates for office furniture and equipment are given as $805,000 and $355,000, respectively, while data-processing equipment has been estimated at $809,200 (annex IV, paras. 84-86). The Advisory Committee is of the opinion that some of this equipment could be transferred from other missions being liquidated and be cost-effective, notwithstanding the differences in voltage or shipping costs. Considering the expected relatively short duration of UNMIH and the fact that some of the equipment had already been provided during the previous mandate period, the Advisory Committee recommends that the expenditure for office furniture and equipment should not exceed $600,000 and that for data-processing equipment should not exceed $500,000.

Generators

52. The estimate for generators has been given as $1,361,600 and provides for a total of 72 generators. The Advisory Committee understands that a number of the generators will be acquired from the Multinational Force; that being the case, the Committee sees no reason for the generators to be budgeted for at full price. It is of the opinion that a reasonable estimate for provision of generators should not exceed $800,000.

Miscellaneous equipment

53. The Advisory Committee notes from paragraph 94 of annex IV of the report that an estimate of $2,231,100 has been proposed for the purchase of heavy capital equipment to be acquired from the Multinational Force for use by the commercial contractor. The latest information provided to the Advisory Committee indicates that the exact items to be purchased have yet to be determined. Under the circumstances and in line with the recommendations in paragraph 39 above, the Advisory Committee recommends an estimate of $1.5 million; this represents a reduction of $731,100.

Contractual services

54. The estimate of $15,607,500 for contractual services does not include the supply of equipment or materials. In this connection, the Advisory Committee believes that full disclosure should be made of items estimated under contractual services. Accordingly, the Committee requests that in his next budget estimate for UNMIH the Secretary-General provide detailed information on the estimated numbers and related salaries, entitlements and other expenditures for the expatriate and local labour force used by the contractor. Information should also be provided on other elements that may be covered under "Contractual services".

55. Furthermore, the Committee believes that with the availability of 2,221 military logistics personnel, a number of services indicated in the table in paragraph 102 could be performed by the contingents and need not be contracted out.

56. The Committee was informed that the contractual services as envisaged in the report had been advertised for bids and that 11 contractors had responded. However, neither the identity of the contractor nor the final costs will be known until 28 March 1995, when the bids will be reviewed and approved by the Committee on Contracts. However, the Advisory Committee was informed that an amount of $2,501,800 had already been obligated without bids by way of letters of assist through one Government. The Committee's views in this regard are reflected in paragraphs 10 and 11 above. A copy of the contract to be entered into for services was made available to the Advisory Committee.

Public information programmes

57. An amount of $300,000 has been estimated for public information programmes for provision of equipment and services, as indicated in paragraph 120, exclusive of personnel costs. However, in this connection, based on the information provided in annex VII of the report, the Advisory Committee recommends that the Secretary-General examine the possibility of combining the post of Public Information Officer (P-5) with that of the Spokesman (P-4). With regard to the information programmes, while the Committee does not object to the services indicated, it recommends that any costs involved in production of programmes for CNN should not be borne by the United Nations.

Audit services

58. The Advisory Committee notes from paragraph 100 that an amount of $23,800 has been estimated for external audit services. The Committee was informed that requirements for a resident auditor would be reviewed as the situation develops and that it was envisaged that internal audit coverage would be provided by teams of visiting auditors.

Training programmes

59. The total estimate for training, as indicated in paragraphs 123 and 124, amounts to $970,000. However, the Advisory Committee understands that part of that amount has already been expended for a training programme, although no

details have been provided to it. The Committee is aware that, as indicated in paragraph 123, the training had to be held prior to the transition of the operation from the Multinational Force to UNMIH; nevertheless it is essential that details of such training programmes already undertaken or envisaged for the future be provided in order to enable the Committee to ascertain the actual requirements. Furthermore, the Advisory Committee has not been fully informed as to the role of the non-governmental organizations involved in the training programme and the basis for their selection; the Committee believes that, in general, costs for training of non-governmental organizations should not be borne by assessed contributions for peace-keeping operations. Accordingly, the Committee recommends that the amount of $32,700 for travel and per diem for 15 personnel of non-governmental organizations, as well as $12,500 for rental of buses, should not be included in the estimates.

60. In paragraph 124, an amount of $820,000 has been indicated for supplies for training an initial force of 3,000 Haitian police in 10 regional offices; items such as uniforms, personal gear ($2,000 per office per month) and radios (at $200 per person) are proposed. As indicated in the report of the Secretary-General to the Security Council of 17 January 1995, 3/ a number of countries have expressed willingness to help the Haitian police with various types of equipment, such as gear and radios, as well as uniforms; it would therefore appear that the budgeted amount of $820,000 may not be required.

Conclusion

61. Bearing in mind its comments and observations made in the paragraphs above, the Advisory Committee recommends that the costs for UNMIH for the period from 1 February to 31 December 1995 not exceed $257,556,300.

62. For the period from 1 July 1994 to 31 January 1995, the Advisory Committee does not recommend assessment of the additional amount as requested by the Secretary-General in paragraph 34 (b) of his report until such time as a performance report for the period has been reviewed.

Notes

1/ S/1995/149.

2/ S/1995/46 and Add.1.

3/ Ibid., p. 84.